

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15  
USIA-06 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /065 W  
-----031300Z 108850 /53

R 031010Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0466  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN  
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY OSLO  
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK  
USMISSION USNATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 1873

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, XZ, NATO, SW  
SUBJECT: NATO AMBASSADORS DISCUSSION OF NORDIC AFFAIRS

1. A DISCUSSION TOOK PLACE AT THE NATO AMBASSADORS' LUNCH  
APRIL 28 ON THE RECENT FRICTION BETWEEN NORWAY AND FINLAND  
ABOUT FRG PARTICIPATION IN MANEUVERS IN NORWAY. THE NORWEGIAN  
AMBASSADOR EXPLAINED OSLO'S POLICY IN A NUTSHELL BY SAYING  
"THIS IS NOBODY ELSE'S DAMNED BUSINESS BUT OURS."

2. THE FRG AMBASSADOR (VOIGT), IN DESCRIBING SWEDISH FONMIN  
SODER'S RECENT VISIT TO BONN, NOTED THAT HE HAD SAT IN ON THE  
SODER-GENSCHER TALKS AND, AMONG OTHER THINGS, THERE WAS NO  
CRITICISM FROM SWEDEN ABOUT FRG PARTICIPATION IN NATO MANEUVERS  
IN NORWAY. THE NORWEGIAN AMBASSADOR (VOGT) GAVE A HANDY  
SUMMARY OF THE AFFAIR, MAKING THE FOLLOWING POINTS:  
(A) NORWAY'S RESTRICTIONS AS TO NUCLEAR ARMS AND AS TO  
HOLDING CERTAIN MANEUVERS WERE SELF-IMPOSED. HER DECISION,  
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AFTER A LONG WAITING PERIOD, OF ALLOWING LIMITED FRG  
PARTICIPATION IN NATO MANEUVERS IN NORWAY WAS "OUR BUSINESS,  
AND NOBODY ELSE'S DAMNED BUSINESS BUT OURS."  
(B) THE FINNISH COMMENTARY CAME AGAINST A BACKGROUND OF  
SOME NORWEGIAN DIFFICULTIES WITH THE USSR, FIRST OVER THE  
DEMARKATION OF THE BARENTS SEA AND THE SVALBARD QUESTION,  
THEN OVER THE RECENT SPY EXPULSIONS. IT WAS NOTEWORTHY,

THAT THE DECISION ABOUT FRG PARTICIPATION HAD NOT BEEN  
CRITICIZED VERY MUCH IN NORWAY, NOT EVEN BY THE LEFT PRESS.  
(C) AS FOR FINNISH CRITICISM OF FRG PARTICIPATION, THE  
FINNS HAD BEEN "MORE OR LESS FORCED TO JOIN THE CHORUS."  
WHEN ANOTHER AMBASSADOR ASKED IF THIS WAS THE RESULT OF  
SOVIET PRESSURE, VOGT SAID NOT REALLY DIRECT SOVIET PRESSURE,  
WHICH SELDOM HAPPENED, BUT MORE A PERCEPTIVE FINNISH MOVE  
ABOUT WHAT MIGHT BE REQUIRED IN A GIVEN SITUATION. HE  
DISCUSSED THE EMBROGLIO IN THE NORDIC COUNCIL, BUT SAID HE  
DID NOT THINK THE SERIOUSNESS OF NORWEGIAN-FINNISH  
DIFFERENCES SHOULD BE OVEREMPHASIZED.

3. IN THE DISCUSSION, THE COMMON PERCEPTION OF THE SWEDISH  
VIEWPOINT WAS MOSTLY CONCERN THAT THE FINNS NOT ROCK THE  
BOAT BY INJECTING A "SECURITY" ISSUE INTO NORDIC AFFAIRS  
WHICH DID NOT REALLY BELONG THERE AND WHICH WAS NOT REALLY  
A SECURITY ISSUE.PERRY

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** DISPUTES, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, MILITARY EXERCISES, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, MEETING REPORTS  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Subject:** NATO AMBASSADORS DISCUSSION OF NORDIC AFFAIRS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, XZ, SW, NO, FI, NATO  
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